CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An air gap eductor (1) having an air gap (2), a venturi (3) located below the air gap and a porous spray guard (10) positioned between the air gap and an inlet (6) to the venturi.

2. An air gap according to claim 1, wherein the spray guard comprises a central orifice (11).

3. An air gap eductor according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the spray guard is disc shaped.

4. An air gap eductor according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the spray guard is made from a deformable material.

5. An air gap eductor according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the spray guard is removable.

6. An air gap eductor (1) comprising an air gap (2), a nozzle above the air gap, a venturi portion (3) having an inlet zone and a venturi, and a spray guard (20) located above said venturi in said inlet zone, wherein the spray guard comprises an open central pathway (21) permitting straight flow of a water jet from the nozzle to the venturi, at least two vertically offset splash protection members (22a, 22b) arranged to provide a tortuous reverse flow path from below the spray guard to the air gap additional to said open central pathway.

7. An air gap eductor according to claim 6, wherein the spray guard comprises three mutually vertically offset splash protection members, the middle one (22b) of

which is laterally staggered with respect to the upper and lower ones to define said tortuous path.

8. An air gap eductor according to claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the splash protection members are each a semicircular disc having an axial cut out to define said open central pathway.

9. An eductor comprising an air gap (2), a venturi structure (3) having an inlet (6) and an outlet, at least one bypass channel (8) extending from the inlet to the outlet and open to the air gap, and a deflector element (30; 40) located in the bypass channel and projecting inwardly from an outer wall of the bypass channel and facing downwardly to deflect water flowing up the outer wall of the bypass channel.

10. An air gap eductor according to claim 9, wherein the deflector element (40) is removable.

11. An air gap eductor according to claim 9 or claim 10, wherein the deflector element (30) comprises a ledge made in one piece with the bypass channel.

12. An air gap eductor according to any one of claims 9 to 11, wherein the lower surface (44) of the deflector element is downwardly sloping away from the outer wall of the bypass channel.

13. An air gap eductor (1) comprising a venturi structure (3) and a bypass channel (8) for flow bypassing the venturi, wherein an inner wall of the bypass channel comprises a plurality of spaced grooves (50) extending in the direction of through flow.